

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8417
INFO USDA/FAS WASHDC
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USDEL MTN GENEVA
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION OECD PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08660

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAGR, GW
SUBJECT: EC POULTRY SUBSIDIES

REF: EC BRUSSELS 5097

1. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY OUR GERMAN CONTACTS THAT THERE IS HEAVY PRESSURE ON THE COMMISSION TO EXPAND THE EXPORT SUBSIDY FOR POULTRY MEAT TO THE FAR EAST AND THE CARIBBEAN. CERTAIN MEMBER STATES ARE PUSHING THIS EXPANSION OF THE EC EXPORT SUBSIDY POULTRY PROGRAM.

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2. ACCORDING TO OUR CONTACTS, THERE ALLEGEDLY HAD BEEN AN INFORMAL AGREEMENT IN THE LATE 60'S WHICH WOULD HAVE ALLOWED THE EC TO DEVELOP THE EXPORT POULTRY MARKET IN THE NEAR EAST. FURTHER, THIS ALLEGED AGREEMENT WAS TO PERMIT THE U. S. TO DEVELOP OUR EXPORT PROGRAM TO OTHER PARTS OF THE

WORLD. BECAUSE OF OUR LARGE RECENT SALES OF POULTRY MEAT TO IRAN AND OTHER MIDDLE EAST COUNTRIES, CERTAIN EC MEMBERS HAVE BROUGHT PRESSURE ON THE COMMISSION TO LIBERALIZE EXPORTS TO THE FAR EAST AND THE CARIBBEAN. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES, THE U. S. HAS BROKEN THE AGREEMENT AND THEREFORE, THE COMMISSION SHOULD BE FREE TO TAKE STEPS TO EXPAND EXPORT SUBSIDIES TO THE REST OF THE WORLD.

3. WE HAVE INDICATED TO OUR CONTACTS THAT WE KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THIS AGREEMENT--THAT THE COMMISSION HAS TAKEN ACTIONS WHICH FURTHER LIMIT OUR MODEST EXPORT MARKET TO THE EC ITSELF, AND IS NOW BEING PUSHED TO CONSIDER ACTIONS WHICH WILL REDUCE OUR ABILITY TO EXPORT TO OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. OUR REPLY WAS THAT PERHAPS THE U. S., GIVEN THESE RULES, SHOULD NOT BE EXPORTING POULTRY MEAT AT ALL.

4. WE WERE INFORMED THAT THE COMMISSION HAS NOT, AT LEAST AT THIS POINT, CONSIDERED TAKING ANY ACTION TO INCLUDE THOSE AREAS OF THE WORLD NOW COVERED BY THE POULTRY EXPORT SUBSIDY PROGRAM, AND ARE WAITING FOR OUR RESPONSE. WE KNOW THAT WASHINGTON IS AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THE COMMISSION HAS ALREADY INCREASED THE EXPORT SUBSIDY RATE FROM 8.5 UNITS OF ACCOUNT TO 12 U.A. PER 100 KG., EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 1977.

5. CONCLUSION--WE ASSUME THAT THIS ALLEGED INFORMAL AGREEMENT TO RESTRICT OUR EXPORTS TO THE NEAR EAST IS CONFIDENTIAL

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CERTAINLY NOT TRUE AND THEREFORE, IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT THE COMMISSION BE MADE AWARE OF THIS.
STOESSEL

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